

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, GW, WB

SUBJECT: GDR ATTACKS SCHUETZ

REF: BERLIN 1914

1. GDR REACTED SHARPLY NOVEMBER 6-7 TO GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ' STATEMENT CONDEMNING GDR'S UNILATERAL INCREASE IN MANDATORY CURRENCY EXCHANGE FOR VISITS TO EAST GERMANY (REFTEL), ACCUSING SCHUETZ OF USING RECKLESS RHETORIC AS PART OF HIS ONGOING EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT. HONECKER, HIMSELF, FIRED FIRST VOLLEY. IN TOAST GIVEN AT SOVIET NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION NOVEMBER 6, HONECKER CLAIMED SCHUETZ'S REMARKS PROVED THAT "GOVERNING MAYOR COULD NOT COPE WITH DETENTE" AND APPARENTLY PREFERRED TENSIONS OF "COLD WAR".

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NEUES DEUTSCHLAND FOLLOWED WITH EDITORIAL BROADSIDE ON

NOVEMBER 7, WHICH, WHILE IGNORING CURRENCY EXCHANGE ISSUE, CHARGED SCHUETZ WITH COUNTERING GDR "GOOD-WILL" WITH IMPLACABLE AND UNREASONING HOSTILITY TO DETRIMENT OF WEST BERLIN POPULATION. IN PARTICULAR, ND ACCUSED SENAT AND SCHUETZ OF: A) DISREGARDING "FUNDAMENTAL PROVISION" OF QA THAT "WESTBERLIN" NOT PART OF FRG AND MUST NOT BE GOVERNED BY IT; B) REJECTING GDR PROPOSALS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON WATER CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION; C) BEING MOST VIGOROUS PROPONENT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF FRG ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN; D) USING DELAYING TACTICS IN TALKS WITH GDR ON PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS; E) FAILING TO RESPOND TO GDR'S OFFER TO CONSTRUCT OIL PIPELINE TO WEST BERLIN; F) PROMOTING CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MISUSING TRANSIT ROUTES; AND G) PROMOTING AND APPLAUDING PHYSICAL ASSAULTS AGAINST GDR FRONTIER. IN CONCLUSION, ND CLAIMED THAT SCHUETZ IN EFFECT PURSUING POLICY NOT ONLY AGAINST GDR BUT AGAINST "SIGNATORIES OF QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT" AS WELL.

2. COMMENT: INTENSIVE ATTACK ON SCHUETZ INDICATES GDR PROBABLY JUDGES THAT VIROROUS BROADSIDE WAS BEST ANTIDOTE AT THIS TIME TO ANTICIPATED WESTERN CRITICISM OF CURRENCY-EXCHANGE MOVE. IT MAY ALSO BE ANOTHER HARBINGER OF A HARDENING OF SOVIET-GDR LINE ON WESTPOLITIK AND OF EFFORTS TO KEEP ALIVE RECENT DIFFERENCES IN WEST GERMAN RANKS AS TO PROPER WAY OF HANDLING WEST BERLIN ISSUE IN CONTEXT OF OSTPOLITIK. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT SEEMS EVIDENT THAT HONECKER WOULD NOT HAVE USED SOVIET EMBASSY FORUM TO LAUNCH ATTACK IF HE DID NOT HAVE MOSCOW'S SUPPORT FOR THIS TACTIC.BORG

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